



Spain



Fast Facts

- *Population: 46,081,574*
- *Capital: Madrid*
- *National Sport: Soccer*
- *National Language: Spanish*
- *Coordinates: 40.0N 4.0W*



Physical Characteristics

- *Spain is surrounded by water which is helpful and hurtful because they have access to the water in all directions, but they are vulnerable to attack.*
- *Spain has over 1,800 rivers and streams throughout the country.*
- *Spain has a variety of climates due to the range of altitudes caused by mountains such as the Pyrenees and valleys*





Culture



- *Culture of Spain has a heavy Latin influence.*
- *Romans also influence the Spanish culture because Spain was once a part of the Roman Empire. Roman architecture and art is common throughout Spain.*
- *The Spanish hold many festivals for various reason such as rebirth and celebration. It is called Martes de Carnaval. It is very similar to an American Mardi Gras celebration.*





Traditions



- *A common tradition in Spain is to play soccer. This is their national sport and many children play.*
- *Flamenco dancing has also become a tradition in Spain. It started out as a dance gypsies would do, but it became increasingly popular.*
- *Christmas is also a big tradition in Spain. It is celebrated from December 8th to Christmas Day. Children receive their gifts on the Epiphany. The holiday season is both religious and festive.*



Running of the Bulls

- The running of the bulls is a famous tradition in which the people of Spain gather to be chased down the streets by bulls. It goes along with their tradition of bullfighting which is also quite dangerous. Many people enjoy these two traditions. Tourists are drawn to the events for entertainment.*



History

- *The land where Spain now lies has been settled for millions of years. Many different people came through and conquered whoever was on the land at that time. The Spanish were the final conquerers of the land. They named it Spain. Spain has gone through a number of different government styles. They are currently under parliamentary democracy.*